



Focus: R | A | M

Racine Art Museum
Annual Contributors Report 2018



Expressing Our Gratitude

A Note of Thanks
from RAM Executive
Director and
Curator of Collections
Bruce W. Pepich

Many thanks for your gifts to RAM in 2018! **Over 50,000 people** from throughout the region and across the country have participated in RAM's collection, exhibition, and education programs over the last year. Thanks to the generosity of the people listed in this publication, RAM's two campuses have become homes for people of all ages who value visual creativity and support artistic self-expression. RAM also thanks the volunteers who donated thousands of hours to help the museum serve its guests. Gifts of artworks, library books, in-kind services, and materials round out a wide range of donations that keep RAM alive and thriving.

This report demonstrates that, by working together, we can accomplish great things. RAM boasts the country's largest contemporary craft collection—regularly bringing visitors from throughout our community and the world to downtown Racine. The museum's collection exhibitions document artists' careers and make guests more creative problem solvers by presenting them with new ideas about how to use one's mind and hands. RAM's education programs—open to people of all ages—make lifelong learning a reality.

Throughout 2019, RAM celebrates its role as America's craft collection by organizing a series of exhibitions from the museum's holdings that demonstrate a commitment to collecting artists' works in-depth. In so doing, RAM has established archives of multiple artists' works, giving insight to their career achievements. This fall, the museum will present historic displays of craft works from the 1960s through the mid-1980s to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the famed **OBJECTS: USA** exhibition that traveled the country and the show's effect on the development of contemporary craft during the second half of the twentieth century. While RAM often includes earlier works in exhibitions, this is the first time that the galleries will be filled with pieces 35 or more years old, offering greater insight into a significant time period in our shared history.

Thank you for your support in making the Racine community a better place in which to live, work, and visit! We look forward to seeing your name on these lists next year and for many years to come.

Bruce

(cover)
At RAM's Wustum Museum of Fine Arts
Photography: Azure Mahara Photography

(above)
Pop-Up Art Party at Wustum
Photography: Azure Mahara Photography

(opposite)
Kids Art Class at Wustum

Each year we recognize the generous donors who support RAM and Wustum through financial contributions. The following pages list those who have contributed to RAM in 2018 through membership, sponsorship, grants, campaigns, employer matched gifts, endowments, gifts in honor or memory of loved ones and friends, fundraising events, and annual fund. All gifts are welcomed with the utmost gratitude. Although we hope this list is complete, if we have missed or misspelled your name, please call Laura Gillespie at 262.619.3539, so we may immediately correct our records. Thank you.

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You Make RAM A Reality

Highlights of 2018



The staff at Racine Art Museum is honored to work with all of you toward growing and sustaining **Wustum and RAM for future generations**. We thank you so much for sharing your time, talents, and treasures to help RAM enrich the local community and beyond. The following **highlights** illustrate how many people were touched by your generous gifts in 2018.

RAM By the Numbers

- 52,531 – the number of visitors at RAM and Wustum
- 23 – the percentage of visitors **from outside Wisconsin**
- 56 – the percentage of visitors from outside Racine County
- 6,978 – the number of participants in our free education programs, such as **RAM on the Road, Downtown Outreach, and SPARK!**
- 7,091 – the number of participants in the **moderately-priced studio art classes** at Wustum
- 42 – the number of **different states** that visitors came from
- 13 – the number of **foreign countries** that visitors came from (Argentina, Cuba, Australia, and India...to name a few)
- 43 – the percentage of minority participants served via RAM's mobile outreach education programs



Since the 1940s, RAM has been proud to **honor the legacy** of its supporters who help build the museum's world class collection and make it accessible to thousands of people of all ages. Award-winning outreach education programs like **RAM on the Road** and **SPARK!** deliver free hands-on art experiences to students in schools and seniors in

residential care facilities. The museum's **world-class exhibitions** showcase works from Wisconsin and international artists in the collection. Studio classes and artist development programs provide opportunities to study, practice, and develop artwork from novice level to professional.

2018 was a wonderful year full of happy memories and hope for a **bright future**. Please remember that none of this is possible without you and at RAM, we are truly grateful!

(top)
Kids Day at Wustum
Photography: Azure Mahara Photography

(middle)
Party on the Pavement at RAM

(bottom)
**Big Sisters Little Sisters
Event at Wustum**



RAM Members are essential to the museum's ability to nourish creativity, provide educational experiences, and keep **art accessible for everyone**. For as little as \$45 per year, join now and become an integral part of RAM's extended family.

Support America's largest craft collection, view **world-class exhibitions**, and participate in exceptional educational programming for all ages and abilities. Choose the level that's **right for you** or purchase a gift membership for a friend or loved one.

\$55 Individual (\$45 seniors 62 and over) receive the following benefits for one adult:

- Unlimited free admission
- Discounts in the **Museum Store**
- Reduced rates on art classes
- Recognition in the *Annual Contributors Report*
- Subscription to the *Focus: RAM* newsletter
- Waived entry fees for artist competitions

\$75 Family/Dual

- All the above benefits for two adults and members' children or grandchildren under age 18

\$125 Enthusiast

- All the above benefits, plus **free admission at over 1,000 participating museums**, like the Milwaukee Art Museum and the Museum of Arts and Design in New York

To learn more about **membership and premiere giving levels** that include unique experiences, contact **Laura Gillespie** at **262.619.3539** or lgillespie@ramart.org.



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(above)
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 at Home and at RAM
 in the RAM Galleries**

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SAVOUR Fundraiser at Wustum

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Fall Family Fun Fest at Wustum
 Photography: Azure Mahara Photography

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Kids Day at Wustum

Photography: Azure Mahara Photography

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**RAM Members Tour with Executive Director
 and Curator of Collections Bruce W. Pepich**



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Current Exhibitions

Treasure Trove
through August 4

Represent
through
September 1

From Nature
and Fusion
through
October 6



works from RAM. Ghaznavi creates articulated paper dolls that represent, in her own words, “black pop culture, afro-centric natural hair, positive imagery of black women, self-love and awareness.”

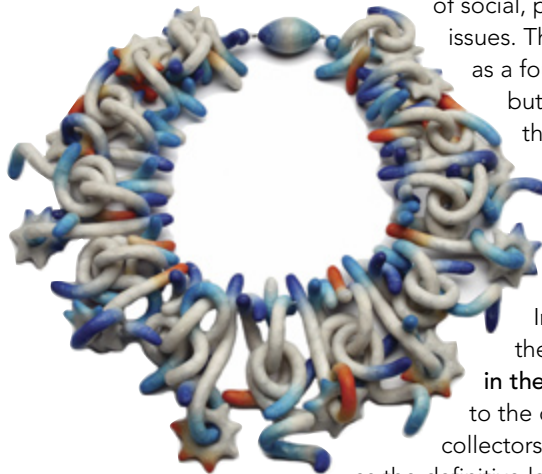
From Nature: Contemporary Artists and Organic Materials features primarily objects—sculptural, functional, and wearable—that incorporate items from the natural world as a means to explore material possibility and a way to investigate a variety

Of the **current exhibitions** in the galleries, two are organized around thought-provoking ideas related to identity and the natural world while the other two specifically look at facets of RAM’s holdings to further illuminate the breadth and dimension of the museum’s permanent collection.

From self-portraits to works that encapsulate the essence of a subject through metaphor or emotion, pieces included in **Represent: Exploring Portraits from RAM’s Collection** encourage contemplation about how human beings understand one another as well as the world around them. When light-sensitive works are changed out in May to help with their preservation, a small selection of the work of **Milwaukee-based artist Kierston Ghaznavi** will be added to the exhibition alongside other



of social, personal, environmental, and cultural issues. The works included emphasize the natural as a found object—perhaps manipulated—but not in a way that dramatically disguises the source. Elements such as **feathers, stones, shells, twigs, and gut** play structural, metaphorical, or decorative roles in these artworks created during the last few decades.



In 2013, RAM was identified as having the **largest contemporary craft collection in the country**. That accomplishment is thanks to the commitment of donors—private collectors and artists primarily—who see RAM as the definitive lasting home for the artwork they have

amassed and/or created. Also unique to RAM’s collection are concentrations of multiple works by particular artists. While some institutions choose to limit their acquisitions to one or two examples per artist, RAM is often interested in **representing a large cross-section** of a career or body of work. Archive holdings of select artists who primarily create jewelry and metalwork are showcased in **Treasure Trove: Establishing Jewelry and Metals Archives at RAM**.



The jewelry and small-scale objects on display in **Fusion: Contemporary Enamels from RAM’s Collection** further reflect collecting efforts. The works in this exhibition are both a survey of enamels at RAM and a microcosm of the material investigations in the field over the last several years.

(top to bottom)

Jan Hopkins

Isadora, 2008

Grapefruit peel, waxed linen,

Alaskan yellow cedar bark,

lotus pod tops, and Sharlyn melon peels

Racine Art Museum, Gift of Karen Johnson

Boyd in Honor of Bruce W. Pepich’s

35 Years of Service to RAM

Kierston Ghaznavi

Mother and Child Reunion/

Me and Amaya, 2018

Ink, marker, cardstock, paper

metal brads, and twine

Collection of the Artist

Pier Voulkos

Anemone Star Necklace, 1995

Polymer, aluminum foil, and cotton thread

Racine Art Museum, Gift of the Artist

Marissa Saneholtz

Manly Man Brooch, 2012

Copper, enamel, tin, and sterling silver

Racine Art Museum, Gift of Robert W.

Ebendorf and Aleta Braun

Collection Photography: Jon Bolton

Alex Mandli and Amy Misurelli Sorensen received two of the four **RAM Artist Fellowships** awarded in 2018. With that honor comes a \$2,500 stipend for each recipient as well as a concurrent solo show in the **RAM Artist Fellowship Exhibition 2019** at Wustum. RAM Curator of Exhibitions **Lena Vigna** spoke with Mandli and Sorensen.

Would you please describe your work?

Alex Mandli: Throughout my career as a potter, my work has evolved through a number of series and themes. Some of them took years to play out, whereas others were fairly brief. To create work, I rely on playful discovery, letting curiosity lead the way. My saggar and pit fired work seeks to perfect the very essence of making ceramics by focusing on just clay, water, and fire. The saggar firing process relies on the skill and experience I have developed over the years to create an environment of combustible materials that use the fire as a painter might use a brush.



Unexpectedly, a new series originated with a 2013 trip to Italy. Like many travelers, I was fascinated by Italy's history, art, landscape, and architecture, but I was also intrigued by things such as the colors found in the earth, tufa stone, and pottery forms by anonymous artisans. After visiting the studios of two Italian ceramic artists, I began to experiment with iron oxide from that region, using it to create an antique surface decoration when combined with my existing firing techniques. I remembered a bowl with human figures walking on the rim that I had seen in Florence and that led to my adding modern, technology-addicted figures to my more recent pieces.



What inspires you most these days? What do you think about most nights?



Amy Misurelli Sorensen: Women. Feminism. Equality. I've learned, and I believe, that the personal is political, and this learned belief is what informs my work. In Washington, DC, as a MFA candidate at American University, I stepped out of my studio to take a feminist art history class. The women who wrote *The Power of Feminist Art* [Norma Broude and Mary D. Garrard] instructed the class. That book changed my life.

Why the RAM Artist Fellowship? Since we are midway through the process, are you where you thought you would be or have your plans changed?

Sorensen: I have been applying for the **RAM Artist Fellowship** since 2011. I've admired its vision, mission, and past Fellowship Recipient exhibitions. I am honored to be included as a 2018-19 Recipient.

The Fellowship has given me the opportunity to focus on my work without financial limitations for materials and tools. It's given me fresh eyes on how I view my own work and practice. It's given me direction, self-reflection, and an invitation to take more chances in my future endeavors. It is truly a pleasure to be gifted monies to do what I love.



RAM Artist Fellowship Exhibition 2019
 Sponsored by
Osborne and Scekic Family Foundation
August 23 – November 16, 2019

(top to bottom)
RAM Artist Fellowship Recipient Alex Mandli
 Photography: Camela Langendorf

Alex Mandli, Over-Connected, 2015
 Photography: William Lemke

RAM Artist Fellowship Recipient Amy Misurelli Sorensen
 Photography: Camela Langendorf

Amy Misurelli Sorensen, Untitled 5 (Medusa), 2018
 Relief print

Art Education Dreams You Helped Come True in 2018



In 2018, over 14,000 attendees participated in art classes, drop-in programs, tours, school programs, or free art experiences. RAM's Wustum Museum goes through over 500 glue sticks, hundreds of markers, thousands of pounds of clay, and many gallons of paint each year—all to inspire the joy of creating art.

Wustum has a long history of providing community education programs in Racine. In the past decade, 45,000 people have attended art classes and 2,600 have participated in **SPARK!**, a free engagement program for people with memory loss and their care partners. **RAM on the Road/Wustum on Wheels** has provided free programming for over 21,000 since 2011 while 25,000 fourth graders, teachers, and

volunteers have participated in the **Outreach 4** program since 2002.

For more about all RAM Education Programs, visit ramart.org/education.

Art Education Create with RAM in Spring 2019



This spring, Wustum is hosting the first ever **SPARK! & Partners Care Couple Sampler** on **Wednesday, April 17** in partnership with the **Aging & Disability Resource Centers** of Racine and Kenosha, the **Wisconsin Alzheimer's Association**, and **Civil War Museum SPARK!**. Families who have a loved one with memory loss are invited to explore a multitude of programs and activities offered in Racine and Kenosha.

Visit Wustum on **Saturday, April 27**, 11:00 am to 5:00 pm for the **Get Behind the Arts Studio Tour** to meet RAM's teaching artists—along with their students—who will be working in the studios. It's your chance to sample Wustum's classes with demonstrations and art for sale.

On **Saturday, May 4**, Wustum will host the third annual **Full Steam Ahead**. Don't miss the spectacle of large scale printing using a steam roller as the makeshift press. RAM Artist Fellowship Recipients **Lisa Bigalke** and **Amy Misurelli Sorensen**, along with other regional printmakers, will make massive prints. Food trucks will be there for your culinary needs. Plus, make art with **RAM on the Road** and **Press on Wheels (POW)**.



Kick off your summer with the annual **Kids Day: You've Got the Look** on **Friday, June 15** at Wustum. Make art, pose for pop-up portraits at selfie stations, enjoy scavenger hunts, and play outside games. Free for RAM Members and reasonably priced for families who are not members yet.

Children's summer art classes will feature five weeks of experiences for the budding artist. Kids can choose a one-day workshop, a half-day class, or a week-long all-day camp. They can try something new like making paper flowers in **Forever Flowers** or enjoy a favorite like **Potter's Wheel**. For further details, please visit ramart.org.

(top)
Kids Art Class at Wustum

(middle)
SPARK! at Wustum

(bottom)
Full Steam Ahead at Wustum

(opposite)
RAM's Wustum Museum
Photography: Azure Mahara Photography

Friends of RAM continued

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(left)
In the RAM Galleries
 (above right)
Free Hand-on Art at RAM
 (right)
Studio Art Class at Wustum

Estate Gifts 2018

Estate of Dennis Cannaday
George S. Parker II Trust

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Edie Buhler
Alex Cook
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Chris and Kathy Wargo
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Honors those who have notified us
of future estate gifts to RAM.

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Frank Boyden
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in honor of Ben Schore and Kathy Rines





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Photography: Lori Potrykus Photography

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Denise and Daniel Wilcox
Margaret Tungseth and Charles Willis
Wind Point Acupuncture
Winsor & Newton
Kelly Witte
Gary and Beth Wolfe
Wollersheim Winery and Distillery
Jessica Zalewski

Books Given in Memory of:

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Mary Ann Miller Farley
Gerald Hansen
Anne Marie Krewal
Richard Leuenberger
Lawrence R. McCalvy
John E. Olson
Benjamin Bramwell Roberts

Free Hands-On Art at RAM



Museum Store

Your Favorite Place to Shop this Spring



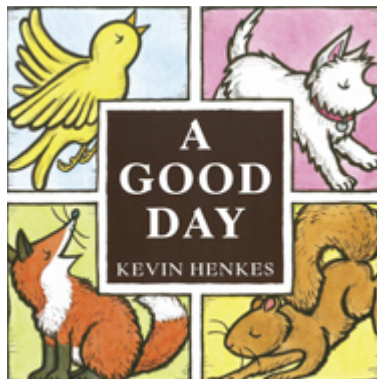
The weather is warming up and everything's turning green. Shed your winter coat and get started on this list of ways to enjoy your spring. Jump in puddles, smell the flowers, and shop at your favorite downtown stop, the **Racine Art Museum Store**. You will find a delightful array of new and uncommon items that will tickle your fancy.

This season, the Museum Store has adorable creatures on mugs, plates, scarves, brooches, and centerpieces, including the magnificent **Eric Branch Bowl**. All 21 inches of him is perfect for the season—a whimsical, holiday

focal point for any room. Made of brass-toned aluminum, **Eric** holds a large bowl atop his ears that you could fill with flowers, eggs, or even candy. The Store offers smaller tabletop animal-adorned pieces as well. New are these beautiful handpainted pet rocks from **Chickadeerocks**, some of the featured items available during the **RAM 10th Annual International PEEPS Art Exhibition**. If bunnies are not your thing, how about dogs? These animal images are full of personality, well worth a visit to the **Museum Store**.



For young readers, the Store is highlighting the award-winning books of Racine native **Kevin Henkes**. Throughout his childhood, Henkes and his family visited the **Racine Public Library**, making an important ritual out of selecting books and carrying them home. At an early age, Henkes also decided that he would be an artist, inspired by frequent visits to **RAM's Wustum Museum**. The Store is delighted to represent a few of his titles like **When Spring Comes**, **A Good Day**, and **Kitten's First Full Moon**.



Looking ahead, the Store already has a great selection of gifts for **Mother's Day** (May 12) and **Father's Day** (June 16). For her, discover beautiful scarves, handbags, and jewelry. For him, choose from unique items like bourbon-infused soap (wow!) and a variety of camping and fishing paraphernalia that will have Dad packing the car right away. Can't decide?



(from top to bottom)
Eric Branch Bowl
Inspired by the illustrations
of Jessica Hiemstra

Chickadeerocks,
Bunny Pet Rocks

Kevin Henkes,
A Good Day

Reiko Sudo,
Shards Nuno Scarf

A Museum Store gift certificate is always a crowd pleaser, a great choice for anyone on your list.

Also, remember to check out the **Online Store** at racineartmuseumstore.org. With items added regularly and one-of-a-kind pieces of jewelry, ceramics, and textiles updated frequently, there is always something new to explore.



Motivated by his love of textiles, contemporary craft, and interior design, **Dennis Cannaday** was a dedicated supporter of RAM for over 20 years. During his travels all over the world, Cannaday collected art and was especially drawn to work by mid-twentieth-century American artists. In his professional life, he was a well-respected interior designer with an irreverent sense of humor. Additionally, he loved shopping in the **Museum Store** and was a featured designer at the first **RAM Designer Showhouse** in 2004.

Cannaday donated 28 pieces to the museum's collection, including works by well-known artists **Dale Chihuly, Jackson Pollock, Mark Tobey, and Robert Rauschenberg.**

Cannaday died on September 6, 2017, one day after his seventy-first birthday. Prior to that time, he made provisions for RAM to receive a significant financial gift from his estate through a **Revocable Trust.** We are pleased to honor Dennis Cannaday for his long-time friendship, gifts of artwork, and for leaving a legacy that will help support RAM's exhibitions and programs well into the future. If you would like more information about supporting RAM, please feel free to contact **Laura D'Amato, Director of Operations and Development** via her direct phone line, 262.898.1412, or email ldamato@ramart.org.

RAM's Named Endowment Funds

We are grateful for the individuals, corporations, and foundations whose gifts to support specific aspects of the museums' operations will sustain RAM well into the future.

Art Library

Dorothy Creecy
John Shannon and Jan Serr

Exhibitions

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Dennis Cannaday
Marcia and Alan Docter
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Leaving a Legacy

Dennis Cannaday

(above left)

Kids Art Class at Wustum

(back cover banner)

Chickadeerocks of Madison,
Dog Pet Rocks

(back cover below)

Michael Lucero

Nomad from the *Reclamation Series*, 1995
Glazed white earthenware, found wooden stool, and found, painted wooden statue
Racine Art Museum,
Gift of Earl and Elaine Liff
Photography: Jon Bolton

Additional photography throughout by Veronica Averkamp, Tricia Blasko, Maureen Fritchen, Laura Gillespie, Damaris Maldonado, and Jessica Zalewski



RAM

Racine Art Museum Association
441 Main Street, Box 187
Racine, Wisconsin 53401-0187
262.638.8300

RAM's Charles A. Wustum
Museum of Fine Arts
2519 Northwestern Avenue, Racine
262.636.9177
ramart.org
racineartmuseumstore.org

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Racine, WI
Permit # 1605

Visit Us

Museum Hours

Tuesday – Saturday
10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Sunday Noon – 5:00 pm
Closed Mondays,
Federal holidays and Easter.
Wustum is closed on Sundays.



Art Exhibitions

At Racine Art Museum

April 11-28, 2019

RAM 10th Annual International PEEPS Art Exhibition

Through July 21, 2019

Raise Your Glass (Goblets)

Recent Acquisitions from
Alan and Barbara Boroff and
the Kohler Foundation, Inc.

Through August 4, 2019

Treasure Trove: Establishing Jewelry and Metals Archives at RAM

Through September 1, 2019

Represent: Exploring Portraits from RAM's Collection

Through October 6, 2019

From Nature: Contemporary Artists and Organic Materials

Fusion: Contemporary Enamels from RAM's Collection

August 2, 2019 – July 26, 2020

Toshiko Takaezu Windows on Fifth Gallery

At RAM's Wustum Museum

Through April 20, 2019

Watercolor Wisconsin 2018

May 5 – 25, 2019

Racine Unified Student Exhibition 2019

June 8 – August 10, 2019

About Face: RAM Community Art Show

Racine Art Guild Juried Competition 2019

August 23 – November 16, 2019

RAM Artist Fellowship Exhibition 2019

Presented by the Osborne
and Sceckic Family Foundation